To: Gorke, Roger[Gorke.Roger@epa.gov]

Cc: Kemmerer, John[KEMMERER.JOHN@EPA.GOV]

From: Vendlinski, Tim

Sent: Tue 11/10/2015 8:54:22 PM

Subject: RE: Groundwater Replenishment in the SJV [notes and references from our call]

This is fine with me, Roger, but I suggest also referencing the lower Kings River Basin (within the borderlands of Fresno & Kings County) as it has already been identified as a potential recharge zone and because there are numerous interested stakeholders in the area. It's OK if we take our NDRP-related focus off the City and County of Fresno, but we should stay focused on the southern county border and add-on the historic Tulare Lake Basin as a 2nd geographic priority. Years ago, amid all the post-SWANCC & Rappanos/Carabell regulatory confusion, we in the Wetlands Office did a rigorous study of the Tulare Basin hydrology, so that report plus what I sent you yesterday provides a wealth of scientific information about potential freshwater inputs to a Tulare Lake recharge zone.

From: Gorke, Roger

Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 11:58 AM **To:** Vendlinski, Tim <vendlinski.tim@epa.gov>

Cc: Kemmerer, John < KEMMERER.JOHN@EPA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Groundwater Replenishment in the SJV [notes and references from our call]

How's this for a start?
Ground water recharge
•□□□□□□□ Several (many) agencies are looking at groundwater recharge for a cost effective storage
•□□□□□□ Agencies in the southern Central Valley are looking at the historic Tulare Lake as a viable option for such storage (see articles below)
• • • • Ground water recharge of the scale at Tulare Lake (40,000 acres of lake yielding 250,000-500,000 acre feet) has the potential for added benefits beyond water storage e.g. migratory bird habitat, etc.
• □ □ □ □ □ EPA has an opportunity to work with our federal, state and local partners to assist in accomplishing this goal through the NDRP with a Regional Drought Resilience Partnership in

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• • • • Opportunities also exist to create innovative financing for this project (and potentially others) e.g. SRFs, Prop 1, private sector funding, etc.

Roger Gorke

Senior Policy Advisor

Office of Water/Region 9 – Southern California Field Office

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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From: Vendlinski, Tim

Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 4:55 PM **To:** Gorke, Roger < <u>Gorke.Roger@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Kemmerer, John < KEMMERER.JOHN@EPA.GOV>

Subject: Groundwater Replenishment in the SJV [notes and references from our call]

Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners – Hydrology of Tulare Basin

http://www.tularebasinwildlifepartners.org/hydrology.html

Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners – Watershed Connections page (includes link to Ag Innovations report for the Kings River)

http://www.tularebasinwildlifepartners.org/watershed-connections.html

Revive the San Joaquin – Using Tulare Lake for Water Storage

http://revivethesanjoaquin.org/content/using-tulare-lake-water-storage
FWS Proposed Tulare Basin Wildlife Management Plan (2007) http://www.fws.gov/cno/refuges/tulare/TulareEArev11-08-07.pdf
Meyers Water Bank and Wildlife Project (Mendota Pool) http://meyersproject.org/
USDA-NRCS Field Office Technical Guide http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/technical/fotg/ apparently does not contain a "conservation practice" for groundwater replenishment although one is apparently being drafted by NRCS (according to Alan Forkey).
Stewart Resnick and the Kern Water Bank http://articles.latimes.com/2014/mar/05/local/la-me-kern-water-20140306
Water for Ecosystems – Murray/Darling Basin Water Authority http://www.mdba.gov.au/about-basin/basin-environment/ecosystems

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From: Gorke, Roger Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 9:57 AM To: Vendlinski, Tim < <u>vendlinski.tim@epa.gov</u> >; Mitschele, Becky < <u>Mitschele.Becky@epa.gov</u> >; Kemmerer, John < <u>KEMMERER.JOHN@EPA.GOV</u> > Subject: Fresno Groundwater
Hey,
Is this the groundwater project that we have been discussing? Do we know folks at Semitropic water district?
http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-water-storage-20151109-story.html
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